WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A computing machine, comprising:

2   a first buffer;

3   a processor coupled to the buffer and operable to,

4   execute an application, a first data-transfer object, and a second data-

5   transfer object,

6   publish data under the control of the application,

7   load the published data into the buffer under the control of the first data-

8   transfer object, and

9   retrieve the published data from the buffer under the control of the second

10   data-transfer object.

1   2.   The computing machine of claim 1 wherein the first and second data-

2   transfer objects respectively comprise first and second instances of the same object

3   code.

1   3.   The computing machine of claim 1 wherein the processor comprises:

2   a processing unit operable to execute the application and publish the data under

3   the control of the application; and

4   a data-transfer handler operable to execute the first and second data-transfer

5   objects, to load the published data into the buffer under the control of the first data-

6   transfer object, and to retrieve the published data under the control of the second data-

7   transfer object.

1   4.   The computing machine of claim 1 wherein the processor is further

2   operable to execute a thread of the application and to publish the data under the control

3   of the thread.

1   5.   The computing machine of claim 1 wherein the processor is further

2   operable to:

3   execute a queue object and a reader object;

4   store a queue value under the control of the queue object, the queue value

5   reflecting the loading of the published data into the buffer;

6   read the queue value under the control of the reader object;

7   notify the second software object that the published data occupies the

8   buffer under the control of the reader object and in response to the queue value;

9   and

10   retrieve the published data from the storage location under the control of

11   the second data-transfer object and in response to the notification.

1   6.   The computing machine of claim 1, further comprising:

2   a bus; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to execute an communication object and to

4 drive the retrieved data onto the bus under the control of the communication object.

1   7.   The computing machine of claim 1, further comprising:

2   a second buffer; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to provide the retrieved data to the second

4 buffer under the control of the second data-transfer object.

1   8.   The computing machine of claim 1 wherein the processor is further

2 operable to generate a message that includes a header and the retrieved data under

3 the control of the second data-transfer object.

1   9.   The computing machine of claim 1 wherein:

2   the first and second data-transfer objects respectively comprise first and second

3 instances of the same object code; and

4   the processor is operable to execute an object factory and to generate the object

5 code under the control of the object factory.

1   10.   A computing machine, comprising:

2   a first buffer;

3   a processor coupled to the buffer and operable to,

4   execute first and second data-transfer objects and an application,

5   retrieve data and load the retrieved data into the buffer under the control of

6   the first data-transfer object,

7   unload the data from the buffer under the control of the second data-

8   transfer object, and

9   process the unloaded data under the control of the application.

1   11.   The computing machine of claim 10 wherein the first and second data-

2   transfer objects respectively comprise first and second instances of the same object

3   code.

1   12.   The computing machine of claim 10 wherein the processor comprises:

2   a processing unit operable to execute the application and process the unloaded

3   data under the control of the application; and

4   a data-transfer handler operable to execute the first and second data-transfer

5   objects, to retrieve the data from the bus and load the data into the buffer under the

6   control of the first data-transfer object, and to unload the data from the buffer under the

7   control of the second data-transfer object.

1   13.   The computing machine of claim 10 wherein the processor is further

2   operable to execute a thread of the application and to process the unloaded data under

3   the control of the thread.

1   14.   The computing machine of claim 10 wherein the processor is further

2   operable to:

3   execute a queue object and a reader object;

4   store a queue value under the control of the queue object, the queue value

5   reflecting the loading of the published data into the first buffer;

6   read the queue value under the control of the reader object;

7   notify the second data-transfer object that the published data occupies the

8   buffer under the control of the reader object and in response to the queue value;

9   and

10   unload the published data from the buffer under the control of the second

11   data-transfer object and in response to the notification.

1   15.   The computing machine of claim 10, further comprising:

2   a second buffer; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to retrieve the data from the second buffer

4   under the control of the first data-transfer object.

1   16.   The computing machine of claim 10, further comprising:

2   a bus; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to execute an communication object, to

4   receive the data from the bus under the control of the communication object, and to

5   retrieve the data from the communication object under the control of the first data-

6   transfer object.

1   17.   The computing machine of claim 10 wherein:

2   the first and second data-transfer objects respectively comprise first and second

3   instances of the same object code; and

4   the processor is operable to execute an object factory and to generate the object

5   code under the control of the object factory.

1   18.   The computing machine of claim 10 wherein the processor is further

2   operable to recover the data from a message that includes a header and the data under

3   the control of the first data-transfer object.

1   19.   A peer-vector machine, comprising:

2   a buffer;

3   a bus;

4   a processor coupled to the buffer and to the bus and operable to,

5   execute an application, first and second data-transfer objects, and an

6   communication object,

7   publish data under the control of the application,

8   load the published data into the buffer under the control of the first data-

9   transfer object,

10   retrieve the published data from the buffer under the control of the second

11   data-transfer object, and

12   drive the published data onto the bus under the control of the

13   communication object; and

14   a pipeline accelerator coupled to the bus and operable to receive the published

15   data from the bus and to process the received published data.

1   20.   The peer-vector machine of claim 19 wherein:

2   the processor is further operable to construct a message that includes the

3   published data under the control of the second data-transfer object and to drive the

4   message onto the bus under the control of the communication object; and

5   the pipeline accelerator is operable to receive the message from the bus and to

6   recover the published data from the message.

1   21.   The peer-vector machine of claim 19, further comprising:

2   a registry coupled to the host processor and operable to store object data; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to,

4   execute an object factory, and

5   to generate the first and second data-transfer objects and the

6   communication object from the object data under the control of the object factory.

1   22.   A peer-vector machine, comprising:

2   a buffer;

3   a bus;

4   a pipeline accelerator coupled to the bus and operable to generate data and to

5   drive the data onto the bus; and

6   a processor coupled to the buffer and to the bus and operable to,

7   execute an application, first and second data-transfer objects, and an

8   communication object,

9   receive the data from the bus under the control of the communication

10   object,

11   load the received data into the buffer under the control of the first data-

12   transfer object,

13   unload the data from the buffer under the control of the second data-

14   transfer object, and

15   process the unloaded data under the control of the application.

1   23.   The peer-vector machine of claim 22 wherein:

2   the pipeline accelerator is further operable to construct a message that includes

3   the data and to drive the message onto the bus; and

4   the processor is operable to,

5   receive the message from the bus under the control of the communication

6   object, and

7   recover the data from the message under the control of the first data-

8   transfer object.

1   24.   The peer-vector machine of claim 22, further comprising:

2   a registry coupled to the host processor and operable to store object data; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to,

4   execute an object factory, and

5   to generate the first and second data-transfer objects and the

6   communication object from the object data under the control of the object factory.

1   25.   A peer-vector machine, comprising:

2   a first buffer;

3   a bus;

4   a processor coupled to the buffer and to the bus and operable to,

5   execute a configuration manager, first and second data-transfer objects,

6   and a communication object,

7   load configuration firmware into the buffer under the control of the

8   configuration manager and the first data-transfer object,

9   retrieve the configuration firmware from the buffer under the control of the

10   second data-transfer object, and

11   drive the configuration firmware onto the bus under the control of the

12   communication object; and

13   a pipeline accelerator coupled to the bus and operable to receive the

14 configuration firmware and to configure itself with the configuration firmware.

34

1   26.   The peer-vector machine of claim 25 wherein:

2   the processor is further operable to construct a message that includes the

3 configuration firmware under the control of the second data-transfer object and to drive

4 the message onto the bus under the control of the communication object; and

5   the pipeline accelerator is operable to receive the message from the bus and to

6 recover the configuration firmware from the message.

1   27.   The peer-vector machine of claim 25, further comprising:

2   a registry coupled to the processor and operable to store configuration data; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to locate the configuration firmware from the

4 configuration data under the control of the configuration manager.

1   28.   The peer-vector machine of claim 25, further comprising:

2   a second buffer; and

3   wherein the processor is operable to:

4   execute an application and third and fourth data-transfer objects,

5   generate a configuration instruction under the control of the configuration

6   manager,

7   load the configuration instruction into the second buffer under the control

8   of the third data-transfer object,

9   retrieve the configuration instruction from the second buffer under the

10   control of the fourth data-transfer object, and

11   configure the application to perform an operation corresponding to the

12   configuration instruction under the control of the application.

1   29.   The peer-vector machine of claim 25 wherein the processor is operable to:

2   generate a configuration instruction under the control of the configuration

3 manager; and

4   configure the application to perform an operation corresponding to the

5 configuration instruction under the control of the application.

1   30.   The peer-vector machine of claim 25 wherein the configuration manager is

2   operable to confirm that the pipeline accelerator supports a configuration defined by the

3   configuration data before loading the firmware.

1   31.   A peer-vector machine, comprising:

2   a first buffer;

3   a bus;

4   a pipeline accelerator coupled to the bus and operable to generate exception

5   data and to drive the exception data onto the bus; and

6   a processor coupled to the buffer and to the bus and operable to,

7   execute an exception manager, first and second data-transfer objects, and

8   an communication object,

9   receive the exception data from the bus under the control of the

10   communication object,

11   load the received exception data into the buffer under the control of the

12   first data-transfer object,

13   unload the exception data from the buffer under the control of the second

14   data-transfer object, and

15   process the unloaded exception data under the control of the exception

16   manager.

1   32.   The peer-vector machine of claim 31 wherein:

2   the pipeline is further operable to construct a message that includes the

3   exception data and to drive the message onto the bus; and

4   the processor is operable to receive the message from the bus under the control

5   of the communication object and to recover the exception data from the message under

6   the control of the first data-transfer object.

1   33.   The peer-vector machine of claim 31, further comprising:

2   a second buffer;

3   wherein the processor is further operable to,

36

4   execute a configuration manager and third and fourth data-transfer

5   objects,

6   generate configuration firmware under the control of the configuration

7   manager in response to the exception data,

8   load the configuration firmware into the second buffer under the control of

9   the third data-transfer object,

10   unload the configuration instruction from the second buffer under the

11   control of the fourth data-transfer object, and

12   drive the configuration firmware onto the bus under the control of the

13   communication object; and

14   wherein the pipeline accelerator is operable to receive the configuration firmware

15   from the bus and reconfigure itself with the firmware.

1   34.   The peer-vector machine of claim 31 wherein the processor is further

2   operable to:

3   execute an application and a configuration manager;

4   generate a configuration instruction under the control of the configuration

5   manager in response to the exception data; and

6   reconfigure the application under the control of the application in response to the

7   configuration instruction.

1   35.   A peer-vector machine, comprising:

2   a configuration registry operable to store configuration data;

3   a processor coupled to the configuration registry and operable to locate

4   configuration firmware from the configuration data; and

5   a pipeline accelerator coupled to the processor and operable to configure itself

6   with the configuration firmware.

1   36.   A peer-vector machine, comprising:

2   a configuration registry operable to store configuration data;

3   a pipeline accelerator; and

4   a processor coupled to the configuration registry and to the pipeline accelerator

5 and operable to retrieve configuration firmware in response to the configuration data

6 and to configure the pipeline accelerator with the configuration firmware.

1   37. A method, comprising:

2   publishing data with an application;

3   loading the published data into a first buffer with a first data-transfer object; and

4   retrieving the published data from the buffer with a second data-transfer object.

1   38. The method of claim 37 wherein publishing the data comprises publishing

2 the data with a thread of the application.

1   39. The method of claim 37, further comprising:

2   generating a queue value that corresponds to the presence of the published data

3 in the buffer;

4   notifying the second data-transfer object that the published data occupies the

5 buffer in response to the queue value; and

6   wherein retrieving the published data comprises retrieving the published data

7 from the storage location with the second data-transfer object in response to the

8 notification.

1   40. The method of claim 37, further comprising driving the retrieved data onto

2 a bus with a communication object.

1   41. The method of claim 37, further comprising loading the retrieved data into

2 a second buffer with the second data-transfer object.

1   42. The method of claim 37, further comprising:

2   generating a header for the retrieved data with the second data-transfer object;

3 and

4   combining the header and the retrieved data into a message with the second

5 data-transfer object.

1   43. The method of claim 37, further comprising:

2   generating data-transfer object code with an object factory;

3   generating the first data-transfer object as a first instance of the object code; and

4   generating the second data-transfer object as a second instance of the object

5 code.

1   44.   The method of claim 37, further comprising receiving and processing the

2 data from the second data-transfer object with a pipeline accelerator.

1   45.   A method, comprising:

2 retrieving data and loading the retrieved data into a first buffer with a first data-

3 transfer object,

4   unloading the data from the buffer with a second data-transfer object; and

5   processing the unloaded data with an application.

1   46.   The method of claim 45 wherein processing the unloaded data comprises

2 processing the unloaded data with a thread of the application.

1   47.   The method of claim 45, further comprising:

2   generating a queue value that corresponds to the presence of the data in

3   the buffer;

4   notifying the second data-transfer object that the data occupies the buffer

5   in response to the queue value; and

6   wherein unloading the data comprises unloading the data from the buffer

7   with the first data-transfer object in response to the notification.

1   48.   The method of claim 45 wherein retrieving the data comprises retrieving

2 the data from a second buffer with the first data-transfer object.

1   49.   The method of claim 45, further comprising:

2   receiving the data from a bus with an communication object; and

3   wherein retrieving the data comprises retrieving the data from the communication

4 object under with the first data-transfer object.

1   50.   The method of claim 45, further comprising providing the data to the first

2 data-transfer object with a pipeline accelerator.

1   51.   A method, comprising:

2   publishing data with an application running on a processor;

3   loading the published data into a buffer with a first data-transfer object running on

4   the processor;

5   retrieving the published data from the buffer with a second data-transfer object

6   running on the processor;

7   driving the retrieved published data onto a bus with an communication object

8   running on the processor; and

9   receiving the published data from the bus and processing the published data with

10   a pipeline accelerator.

1   52.   The method of claim 51, further comprising:

2   generating a message that includes a header and the published data with the

3   second data-transfer object;

4   wherein driving the data onto the bus comprises driving the message onto the

5   bus with the communication object; and

6   receiving and processing the published data comprises receiving the message

7   and recovering the published data from the message with the pipeline accelerator.

1   53.   A method, comprising:

2   generating data and driving the data onto a bus with a pipeline accelerator;

3   receiving the data from the bus with the communication object;

4   loading the received data into a buffer under with a first data-transfer object;

5   unloading the data from the buffer with a second data-transfer object; and

6   processing the unloaded data with an application.

1   54.   The method of claim 53, further comprising:

2   wherein generating the data comprises constructing a message that includes a

3   header and the data with the pipeline accelerator;

4   wherein driving the data comprises driving the message onto the bus with the

5   pipeline accelerator;

6   wherein receiving the data comprises receiving the message from the bus with

7 the communication object; and

8   recovering the data from the message with the first data-transfer object.

1   55.   A method, comprising:

2   retrieving configuration firmware with a configuration manager;

3   loading the configuration firmware into a first buffer with a first communication

4 object;

5   retrieving the configuration firmware from the buffer with a second

6 communication object;

7   driving the configuration firmware onto a bus with an communication object;

8   receiving the configuration firmware with a pipeline accelerator; and

9   configuring the pipeline accelerator with the configuration firmware.

1   56.   The method of claim 55, further comprising:

2   generating a configuration instruction with the configuration manager; and

3   configuring the application to perform an operation corresponding to the

4 configuration instruction.

1   57.   The method of claim 55, further comprising:

2   generating a configuration instruction with the configuration manager;

3   loading the configuration instruction into a second buffer with a third

4 communication object;

5   retrieving the configuration instruction from the second buffer with a fourth

6 communication object; and

7   configuring the application to perform an operation corresponding to the

8 configuration instruction.

1   58.   A method, comprising:

2   generating exception data and driving the exception data onto a bus with a

3 pipeline accelerator;

4   receiving the exception data from the bus with a communication object;

5   loading the received exception data into a buffer with a first data-transfer object;

6   unloading the exception data from the buffer with a second data-transfer object;

7 and

8   processing the unloaded exception data under with an exception manager.

1   59.   The method of claim 58, further comprising:

2   retrieving configuration firmware with a configuration manager in response to the

3 exception data,

4   loading the configuration firmware into a second buffer with a third transfer

5 object;

6   unloading the configuration instruction from the second buffer with a fourth

7 data-transfer object;

8   driving the configuration firmware onto the bus with the communication object;

9 and

10   reconfiguring the pipeline accelerator with the configuration firmware.

1   60.   The method of claim 58, further comprising:

2   generating a configuration instruction with a configuration manager in response

3 to the error data; and

4   reconfiguring the application in response to the configuration instruction.

1   61.   A method, comprising:

2   retrieving configuration firmware pointed to by configuration data stored in a

3 configuration registry during an initialization of a computing machine; and

4   configuring a pipeline accelerator of the computing machine with the

5 configuration firmware.